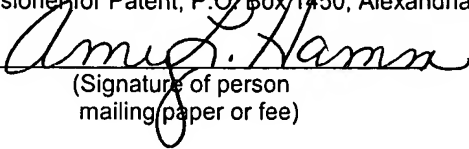


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

.....
**CONTINUATION APPLICATION OF
KENNETH SHAFER ET AL**

SERIAL NO.: 09/853,406

: ART UNIT: 1731

FILED: MAY 11, 2001

: EXAMINER: LOPEZ, CARLOS N.

**FOR: CIGARETTE WITH SMOKE
CONSTITUENT ATTENUATOR**

.....
**MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.